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To: Commissioner for Patents for Examiner Matthew T. Henning Group Art Unit 2131	Facsimile No.: 571/273-8300
From: Michele Morrow Legal Assistant to Gerald H. Glanzman	No. of Pages Including Cover Sheet: 7
Message: Enclosed herewith: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transmittal Document; and • Reply Brief. 	
Re: Application No. 09/740,400 Attorney Docket No: AUS920000798US1	
Date: Tuesday, September 13, 2005	
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SEP 13 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Bones et al.

Serial No.: 09/740,400

Filed: December 18, 2000

For: Incorporating Password Change Policy Into a Single Sign-On Environment

35525

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Group Art Unit: 2131

Examiner: Hanning, Matthew T.

Attorney Docket No.: AUS920000798US1

Certificate of Transmission Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

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By:

Michele Morrow

TRANSMITTAL DOCUMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

ENCLOSED HEREWITH:

- **Reply Brief (37 C.F.R. 41.41).**

No fees are believed to be required. If, however, any fees are required, I authorize the Commissioner to charge these fees which may be required to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and I authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

Respectfully submitted,

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Docket No. AUS920000798US1

PATENT

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By:

Michele Morrow
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REPLY BRIEF (37 C.F.R. 41.41)

This Reply Brief is submitted in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed on July 13, 2005.

No fees are believed to be required to file a Reply Brief. Any required petition for extension of time for filing this brief and fees therefore, are dealt with in the accompanying TRANSMITTAL OF REPLY BRIEF.

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RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S REMARKS**A. GROUND OF REJECTION (Claims 1-14, 20-33 and 39-52)**

Claims 1-14, 20-33 and 39-52 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by He (U.S. Patent No. 5,944,824). Claim 1 is reproduced below for the convenience of the Board:

1. A method in a data processing system for changing a plurality of target passwords in a single sign-on environment, comprising the steps of:
in response to receiving a change instruction identifying a first single sign-on password, changing the first single sign-on password to create a second single sign-on password;
retrieving a target password; and
modifying the target password in a user selected manner to match the second single sign-on password to create a modified target password.

Appellants continue to submit that He does not disclose "in response to receiving a change instruction identifying a first single sign-on password, changing the first single sign-on password to create a second single sign-on password" and "modifying the target password in a user selected manner to match the second single sign-on password to create a modified target password" as recited in claim 1; and, therefore, does not anticipate claim 1.

In the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner states the following in responding to Appellants' arguments:

He further disclosed that for a user with SSO capability, one Present Password for the user was located in the Network Element 20 (See He Col. 7 Lines 64-65). He also disclosed that a second "Present Password" was located in a record stored in a database 13 in a security server 15 (See He Col. 10 Lines 38-44 and Line 66-Col. 11 Line 2).

Examiner's Answer dated July 13, 2005, pages 8 and 9.

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The Examiner then further states:

The appellants argue that He did not disclose "in response to receiving a change instruction identifying a first single sign-on password, changing the first single sign-on password to create a second single sign-on password". As can be seen, in Col. 13 of He, He disclosed sending a message identifying the "Present Password" in the Network Element 20 to a "secure terminal server" 24 (See He Col. 13 Lines 26-30). Although this message was not specifically called a "change instruction", the message resulted in the changing of passwords at the Network Element, as can be seen in Col. 13, lines 31-35. Col. 13, lines 31-35 further show that upon receiving this message (or in response to the message) the "secure terminal server" changed the Present Password (First SSO Password) in the Network Element 20 to the New Password (Second SSO Password) using the data provided in the message of Col. 13 Lines 27-28.

Examiner's Answer dated July 13, 2005, page 9.

Yet further, in response to Appellants arguments that "He clearly described that the super user identifier is not a single sign-on password", the Examiner responds as follows:

The Section cited by the appellants to show this is Col. 11 Lines 3-11, wherein the examiner can find no teaching that He describes that the super user identifier is not a single sign-on password, but the examiner agrees that this may be the case because in general an identifier is not meant to be a password, but is usually associated with a password. However, He clearly disclosed that a Super User had the SSO capability as recited in Col. 8 Lines 47-54, and further that the super user had a password, which was changed (See He Col. 13 Lines 31-35).

Examiner's Answer dated July 13, 2005, page 10.

Appellants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assertions. He does not disclose or suggest that the "Present Password" and the "New Password" described therein is the same as a first single-sign-on (SSO) password and a second single-sign-on (SSO) password as alleged by the Examiner. He only discloses changing a Network element (NE) password or a "super user password", and these are not single sign-on passwords as was explained in detail in the Appeal Brief.

Single-sign-on technology enables a user to access a plurality of separate resources by using a single password, and He is primarily directed to permitting a single-sign-on (SSO) of

users to a plurality of Network Elements. He does not discuss changing an SSO password, and particularly does not relate to changing a first SSO password to a second SSO password in response to receiving a change instruction identifying the first single-sign-on password.

Appellants also disagree with the Examiner's assertion that He contains no teaching in Col. 11, Lines 3-11 that the super user identifier is not a single sign-on password. In Col. 11, lines 3-11, He very clearly states that the "Super-User Log-On Identifier" 142 is different from the one that is used by network security administrator 17 for interaction with the NE 20. He describes that a "super user" requires the privileges to create regular user accounts, to set up initial user passwords, and to change user passwords in a Network Element (not to change a single-sign-on password). He further describes that the existence of this "separate super user identifier 142 supports the implementation of SSO".

Thus, it should be clear that He does, in fact, clearly disclose, in Col. 11 lines 3-11, that the super user identifier is not an SSO password, but is used by a network security administrator to generally support the implementation of SSO. Col. 13, lines 31-35, also referred to by the Examiner only discloses changing a super user password, and does not at all discuss changing an SSO password.

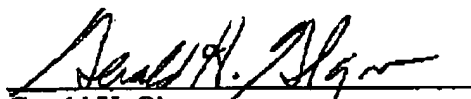
B. GROUND OF REJECTION (Claims 16, 35 and 54)

Claims 16, 35 and 54 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over He in view of Prafullchandra (U.S. Patent 5,734,718).

As mentioned previously, Prafullchandra merely discusses the importance of changing passwords at predetermined intervals. Neither He nor Prafullchandra nor their combination disclose or suggest that "in response to a determination that a target password has been retrieved", "determining a change target password policy", and "applying the change target password policy to modify the target password to match the second single sign-on password to create the modified target password" as recited in claim 16. Only the present application contains such disclosure, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the references as proposed by the Examiner in the absence of the teachings of the present application.

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In view of the above, Appellants respectfully submits that claims 1-57 are allowable over the cited prior art and that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Appellants respectfully requests the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences to not sustain the rejections set forth in the Final Office Action and in the Examiner's Answer.



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